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9 February 1945

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This section was officially established about 1 May 1943.

was placed in charge and continued until November of that year, when he was sent abroad. has continued in charge from that date.

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FUNCTIONS:

This section was established for the following purposes:

1. Reviewing and screening all technical reports from abroad and cooperating with OSS translators to assure technical accuracy. Also keeping abreast of captured material.
2. Establishing and maintaining personal contacts in each of the Services of the War Department and Bureaus of the Navy and sections in pertinent Government agencies, and sending the screened information to them without delay.
3. Cooperating with personnel in the War and Navy Departments and Government agencies in preparing questions and "indicators" to go to the field for further information and detailed investigations.
4. Interviewing abroad the most skilled Scientists and bringing the ones to the United States whose knowledge and experience would add to the knowledge here.
5. Assisting Research and Development Communications and Special Projects Branches of OSS in the implementation of their projects.
6. Preparing and sending abroad certain condensed technical and design information on bridges in Italy, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany and Yugoslavia.
7. Cooperating in establishing policies regarding procurement of technical information in foreign and enemy countries.
8. Cooperating to form policies regarding certain top secret technical developments, conducting all the liaison matters and maintaining all of the files.
9. Assisting in obtaining information on particularly active technical matters, and carrying on investigations in U.S. and foreign countries regarding special alleged inventions and developments.

This document has been approved for release through the HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Date 25 JAN 91

HRP 89-2

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OPERATIONS:

Contacts. In carrying forward the work under the above functions, the history and records show this office developed from zero operations to a point where there were approximately thirty-five different places in Army, Navy and Government agencies that were particularly interested in obtaining, almost immediately, the technical information provided by this office. In fact, approximately twenty-two of this group sent their representatives to this office one to three times a week to obtain the latest information and reports. This continued until approximately May, 1944, when organizational changes in the War and Navy Departments required information to go by directed routes to intelligence officers of the several Services and Bureaus.

General Technical Reports. The records at this office also show that between 4,000 and 5,500 technical reports were reviewed each month, and from 300 to 600 reports were selected for dissemination. These high figures continued until well into August, 1944, when the French area was released and the number of reports thereby fell considerably.

Selected reports and translations are now being forwarded as everyday operations, and many additional copies are forwarded to other places where contacts show assistance.

Most of these reports flow through required channels, although at times, where important, a copy of a report is sent directly to the person where the most good in the shortest time can be accomplished.

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On some of these special technical subjects, this office sends copies directly to three of the Special Assistants to the Secretary of War: Messrs. H.H. Bundy, E. L. Bowles and George Merck. Other activities of this office relate to work on Bridge Reports, some points on Cartels, special Economic Warfare matters, Japanese Aircraft, Petroleum, general matters with the Survey of Foreign Experts, Targets, G-2-ETO Reports. In addition, this office has handled certain reports regarding some Italian scientists and their inventions.

The Ordnance Intelligence Summaries, Chemical Warfare Intelligence Bulletins and Engineers' Intelligence Summaries are reviewed and this office cooperates with the editors of these summaries. Review is also made of OSS Progress Reports from the London, Paris and other offices.

General information is reviewed regarding personal targets or aircraft targets of the like, so that this office continues to be abreast of general information about scientists and their places of technical research and development.

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In addition, considerable time is spent in obtaining technical personnel for operations here and abroad, - including the necessary cover, passports, and visas.

Special Projects, - Indicators. Much of the work of the office has to do with special projects which require personal contacts and personal handling. In many cases these projects require the review of details of certain products or processes and the preparation from them of "indicators" for use by agents who are not technical persons. By "indicators" we mean the translation of technical points or information into non-technical statements about objects which can be observed by the non-technical persons to thereby alert them that there is activity on the projects on which he is interested in obtaining further information. In several of these projects, the "indicators" have proven to be most satisfactory as a means of ferreting out information and thereby obtaining results quickly and from several areas.

Separate Projects. Special work has been done for Air Forces in cooperation with the Survey of Foreign Experts, in interviewing and considering information from refugees who have come to this country, regarding explosive plants and plants producing the several raw materials for explosives. American citizens who have travelled abroad and know of manufacturing information have also been interviewed and their information forwarded to the Air Forces for consideration as targets and for other purposes.

It may be stated that this office has also acted as an intermediary in interviewing some of the refugees, and Americans who have been in foreign countries, in connection with certain of the subject matter noted in the code names above. In cases of certain of the refugees - particularly those well versed on a subject, interviews have been had and then arrangements were made by this office to have a highly skilled person, working on these subjects, talk directly and in detail with the interviewed person. This is only one of the services which this office renders regarding technical matters.

This office assists in the work of General Magruder's office.

Foreign Scientists. Also, This office has acted as liaison to obtain technical information and technical reports for certain investigating bodies here in the U.S. Some of these reports originally emanated from different places abroad. For instance, several reports resulted from interviews by OSS Technical people with Italian Scientists within a day or two after Rome was taken. It was found that there were several scientists in hiding in Rome. Some of these reports were of trips made by Italians into Germany, and the technical subject matter reported has been most helpful in guiding the developments in the U.S. In this way, comparisons of extent of development abroad were easily and quickly made with our own developments.

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It was found that certain of the scientists interviewed had considerable information and were well trained. Two of these scientists in particular were brought to this country for assistance. Two outstanding examples will suffice: one scientist was exceptionally well-known and well trained in the field of electronics - since coming here he has made several advantageous developments. The other scientist, especially well known and skilled, has been most helpful in connection with design of aircraft. In fact, this person has saved the U.S. Government large amounts of money and an immense amount of development work by reason of his prior experimentation and knowledge.

Inventions. There have been many so-called scientists abroad who have had alleged inventions. These inventions have been considered by OSS. In order that possible values should not be "passed up" this office has arranged for interviews in each case, and, when desired, has arranged for testing the inventions in the countries of the inventors. There are now three subjects on which investigations are being made. Oftentimes the persons alleging to be so well trained or to have exceptional inventions are using the alleged inventions as "spring boards" to: (a) get out of their own countries, or (b) to have a trip to the United States to learn as much information as possible and then to return to their home country. All of these inventions are given thorough study by the pertinent section of the Army, Navy, or Government agency which is interested.

Many of the alleged inventions submitted have been on electronics, on particular types of engines, on death rays, on special submarine constructions, and many on the V-1 and V-2 bombs. Much information has already been obtained on these topics, and this office prepared certain questions to be asked of the inventor. In most instances, some of the questions have not been answered, and many instances there have been no replies.

V-1 and V-2. The activity of this office and its personnel abroad have dealt very materially on information regarding the V-1 and V-2 bombs and by passing this information along quickly it has meant that the research personnel and development personnel have been advised early and have been placed in the position of showing more activity because they had additional information with which to work, and there has been considerable increased activity in the U.S. and Britain in preparing defensive measures.

Bridge Information. This office reviewed many books, magazines and catalogs, and took from them the latest pictures of the main and strategic bridges in Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Yugoslavia. These pictures were correlated with cross sections and some working drawings of the bridges and with condensed technical information about them. These compilations were made in short form Reports that were readily used in the field, whereby weak points of

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the bridges were determined to give information for maximum sabotage with minimum destruction, thereby allowing easy and quick repair when the bridge came into the hands of the Allies, but still putting the bridges out of use at least for a time while in the hands of the enemy. These reports were forwarded for use by SHAEF and the particular Theater Commanders. Some of the German and Yugoslav bridge reports were not able to be completed before the battle lines had come to those bridges.

This work on the bridges was done in conjunction with R&A Branch of OSS.

Assisting on Special Research Development, Communications, and Special Projects. This office, by reason of personal contacts of its members with various key personnel in the Army, Navy, and Government Agencies, has been of material assistance in shortening the work and development of many of the projects by reason of obtaining results of early experiments and by correlating the work with the most helpful and experienced personnel.

Also, the personnel of this office has been of material assistance in carrying forward many of the projects. For example, a personal contact with one of the special assistants to the Secretary of War has provided the use of an airplane and its crew to carry out certain tests here in the East and beyond the Mississippi on communication apparatus without having more paper work than the necessary travel orders.

These contacts have made it possible to assist in carrying forward the work with the minimum of trouble and with the greatest results.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The work of this office grew very rapidly and materially to such an extent that representatives of the Army and Navy, and especially the Army Air Forces, sent representatives to this office to obtain quickly the first hand late information. This available information assisted materially in quickly arranging air targets.

The interviews of foreign scientists proved to be an exceptionally helpful field of information and several of the scientists have been brought to this country for interviews and for employment. Notably, the best air flow person known was brought from Italy and turned over to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and this man's experience has been most helpful, and his guidance on high speed air flow has saved this country a great deal of money and man hours of development work.

The screening of technical information has proved to be most helpful, and the early receipt of reports from this office has been greatly

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appreciated.

This office has been complimented several times on the type of information forwarded and the early receipt of the information by the persons involved. These compliments have come from the Navy, NACA, Ordnance of the Army, OSRD, CWS, and the Technical Section of Army Service Forces.

The office has been requested many times to send back for more detailed information on many of the subjects under consideration.

This office has assisted the Research and Development, Communications, and Special Projects Branches very materially by obtaining existing information which has guided the paths of development. Also the personal contacts of this section have been very helpful in carrying forward some of the work of these three branches.

As a result of our collection of V-1 and V-2 information regarding research areas and developments and turning this over to the Army, there was caused considerable increased activity toward defensive measures.

The preparation of "indicators" to be used by the non-technical agent, whereby the agent can recognize pertinent activity, has proven exceptionally helpful in obtaining early and valuable information.

Relatively close cooperation with the Office of Petroleum Administration, on general information, has proven to be of very considerable assistance in several instances.

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